





Today's  
Advertisements.THEATRE ROYAL  
CITY HALLLessee & Manager.....Mr. SAVILE SMITH.  
Stage Manager.....Mr. W. G. CAREY.MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE AND  
COMPANY  
In a SELECTION OF THE LATEST PLAYS OF  
THE DAY.

TO-NIGHT  
SATURDAY—May 25th—SATURDAY,  
GRAND TRIPLE BILL,  
in which Miss GRACE HAWTHORNE and all the  
members of the Company will appear in  
"THE LAUGHABLE SKETCH,"  
"A PAIR OF LUNATICS,"  
To be followed by  
BRANDON THOMAS'S FARCEICAL COMEDY,  
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."  
After which a Few Select VARIETY ITEMS  
will be given.  
SONG AND DANCE—DOT CAREY.  
Concluding with  
TA-RARA-ROOM-DE-AY,  
MISS MARIE BRIAN.

MONDAY—May 27th—MONDAY,  
THE DRAMATIC EVENT OF THE SEASON.  
Under the Distinguished Patronage and  
in the  
Presence of  
H.E. Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.,  
H.E. General BLACK, C.B.  
and  
Commodore ROYES, R.N.  
Farwell Appearance and Benefit to  
MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE,  
VICTORIA SARDON'S SPANISH PLAY,  
"THE ODORA."

(As played by Miss Hawthorne for over 1,000  
nights in England.)  
Prices as Usual. Soldiers and Sailors in  
Uniform half-price to Back Seats only. Doors  
open at 8.30 P.M. commencing at 9 o'clock.  
A Special Train will run to the Peak after the  
Performances.  
Box Office at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH'S.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1667

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION  
COMPANY LIMITED.  
NOTICE TO SHIPWRECKERS.  
FROM GLASGOW, MANCHESTER,  
LIVERPOOL, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship  
"KAISOW,"  
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees  
of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods  
are being landed at their risk, into the Godowns  
of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and  
Godown Company, Kowloon, whence delivery  
may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods  
have left the Godowns and all Claims must be  
sent in to the Office of the Undersigned before  
Noon on the 31st instant, or they will not be  
recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to  
be left in the Godowns where they will be  
examined on 30th instant, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any  
Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 31st  
instant will be subject to rent.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless  
notice to the contrary be given before Noon  
TO-DAY.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by  
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1688

FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.  
THE Steamship  
"BENMOHR,"  
will be despatched on WEDNESDAY, the 29th  
instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1672

FOR SHANGHAI.  
THE Steamship  
"PEIYANG,"  
Captain R. K. Miller, will be despatched as above  
Port on TUESDAY, the 28th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
SIEMSEN & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1686

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,  
LIMITED.  
FOR MANILA.

THE Steamship  
"SUNGKIANG,"  
Captain C. B. N. Dodd, will be despatched on  
WEDNESDAY, the 29th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1691

FOR ILOILO.  
THE Steamship  
"CONTINENTAL,"  
Captain Schill, will be despatched on WED-  
NESDAY, the 29th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1692

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.  
FOR KOBE (DIRECT).

THE Steamship  
"SIKH,"  
Captain Rowley, will be despatched for the above  
Port on THURSDAY, the 30th instant, at Day-  
light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DODWELL, CARROLL & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1675

AVAILABLE FOR CHARTER.  
THE Steamship  
"WILLIAM LE LACHEUR,"  
575 tons register, Motor, Master, is due here  
from SINGAPORE shortly.

For Particulars, apply to  
LOO HUNG,  
Opposite  
No. 25, Aberdeen Street.  
Hongkong, 25th May, 1895. 1697

Today's  
Advertisements.

## NOTICE.

OWNERS of PROPERTY are reminded  
that CROWN RENT for the First Half-  
year of 1895 is PAYABLE at the TREASURY  
on or before the 24th June next.

A. M. THOMSON,  
Acting Colonial Treasurer.  
Treasury,  
Hongkong, 20th May, 1895. 1690

CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION.  
No. 63.

NOTICE is hereby given that TUESDAY  
next, the 29th instant (5TH DAY, 5TH  
MOON), being the CHINESE MIDSUMMER  
FESTIVAL will be observed as a HOLIDAY  
at the KOWLOON CUSTOMS OFFICE, Optics  
Examination Office and Stations.  
All Examination of Cargo and Clearances of  
Junks will be suspended on that date.

H. ELGAR HOBSON,  
Commissioner of Customs  
for Kowloon and District.  
Custom House,  
Kowloon, 25th May, 1895. 1689

## Intimations.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK &  
COMPANY, LIMITED,  
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,  
HONGKONG.

## AERATED WATERS.

## SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

## SODA WATER.

## LEMONADE.

## GINGER ALE.

## SARSAPARILLA.

## RASPBERRYADE, &amp;c.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are  
made under the constant supervision of a duly  
qualified English Chemist and will bear com-  
parison with the best English Manufactures.

Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MESSERS and  
other Large Consumers.

Any complaints should be addressed to the  
Manager.  
Hongkong, 3rd May, 1895. 167

A. S. WATSON & CO.,  
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

## WINES AND SPIRITS.

ALL these are Selected by our London  
House, bought direct at first hand,  
imported in Wood and Bottled by ourselves,  
thus saving all intermediate profits and enabling  
us to supply the best growths at moderate  
prices.

PRICE LISTS, WITH FULL DETAILS, TO BE HAD  
ON APPLICATION.

PORT—After removal should be rested a  
month before use. When required for  
drinking at once it should be ordered to be  
decanted at the Dispensary before being  
sent out.

SHERRY—Excellent dinner and after dinner  
Wines, of very superior vintage. All are  
true Xeres Wines.

CLARET—Our Clarets, including the lowest  
priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine  
product of the juice of the grape and are not  
artificially made from raisins and currents,  
as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY—All our Brandy is guaranteed to  
be pure Cognac, the difference in price  
being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY—All our Whisky is of excellent  
quality and of greater age than most brands  
in the market. The Scotch Whisky marked  
"E" is universally popular and is pro-  
nounced by the best local connoisseurs to  
be superior to any other brand in the  
Hongkong Market.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to  
be genuine when bought direct from us in the  
Colony or from our authorized Agents at the  
Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.  
Hongkong, 9th January, 1895. 169

## BIRTH.

On the 17th of May, at Claygate, Essex,  
Surrey, the wife of H. A. RITCHIE, of a son.  
(By telegraph.)

## DEATHS.

At Xavier's College, Riverside, Malacca, on  
Sunday the 12th May, LUCIA CHRISTINA, the  
beloved wife of Mr. Robert John Shepherdson,  
Barrister of the Supreme Court of the Straits Settle-  
ments, aged 40 years, daily fortified with the  
Sacraments of the Holy Mother, the Church of  
Rome.

At Ryde, Isle of Wight, on the 13th instant,  
aged 70, CONSTANCE, widow of Colonel HUGH  
MITCHELL, R.M., and mother of the Governor  
of the Straits Settlements. (By telegraph.)

## The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1895.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT AND  
THE HEALTH OFFICER.

We publish in another column the report,  
undated, but purporting to have been  
signed some time in April, of the  
Committee appointed to inquire into and  
report on the Colonial Medical Depart-  
ment. It is just as well, perhaps, that the  
precise date has been omitted, as it is  
clear that, since first signed and sent in  
to the Government, it has been altered in  
some respects, some words not in the  
original report having been added since  
Mr. MACON CH read out a paragraph of  
it in the Legislative Council during the  
debate on the second reading of the Bill  
for the appointment of a Medical Officer  
of Health. We have reason to believe,  
too, that the evidence published has been  
very carefully edited since first reduced  
to writing and is not in the same  
state, quite, as when originally submitted  
to the Government. Perhaps it is better  
so. It is had to have, like poor Mr.  
CROOK and the Retrenchment Committee,  
to have to write a letter for publication  
withdrawing statements honestly and  
conscientiously made.

There is another omission, a very notice-  
able one, in the report. It is not prefaced, as  
is usual in the case where there is nothing  
to conceal, with a copy of the commission  
or letter of instructions addressed to the  
members as their authority for proceeding  
with the inquiry. The report itself, how-  
ever, tells us nearly all we want to know.  
The letters of appointment not merely  
specified the subjects on which the Govern-  
ment stood in need of information, but the  
lines were laid down by the Government on  
which the inquiry was to be conducted and  
the Committee carefully proceeded on these  
lines, and did not venture outside of them.  
They took the evidence of eleven witnesses  
of whom two only were not in the service  
of the Government. They did not invite  
any member of the medical profession  
outside of the sacred circle of Government  
servants to assist them with their mature  
opinions or advice. Probably they were  
not at liberty to do so.

However, their report is, so far as it goes,  
a valuable one. They recommend, in  
answer to question one, the abolition of  
the post of Colonial Surgeon; the substitution  
of the Superintendent of the Civil  
Hospital as the head of the Medical  
Department; the addition of another  
Assistant Superintendent to the staff of the  
Civil Hospital; the appointment of a Health  
Officer of the Port, who shall be wholly  
and entirely at the service of the  
Government, and available at all times  
for general medical duties under the  
orders of the Superintendent; the appoint-  
ment of a competent medical man to the  
Gaol to be also in charge of the Tung Wah  
Hospital, and to be available at all times  
for medical work under the orders of  
the principal Medical Officer. They con-  
sider these five men an amply sufficient  
medical staff for the ordinary requirements  
of the Colony, allowing for sickness or  
absence on leave of not more than one of  
the members at a time.

In addition to and independent of the  
above proposed medical staff proper," the  
Committee "strongly recommend the  
appointment of a Medical Officer of  
Health for the Colony" who should have  
no connection whatever with the medical  
staff proper and who should be entirely  
independent of the principal Medical  
Officer. "He should be the medical  
adviser of the Government on all sanitary  
matters through the Sanitary Board, to  
which he should be attached (not necessarily  
as a subordinate officer) and on which he  
should occupy a seat. He should, however,  
in our opinion, be entitled to no vote." The  
Committee do not lay down definitely the  
specific duties to be assigned to this new  
officer, but append for the information of  
the Government a copy of the duties laid  
down by the Bradford Corporation for  
their Officer of Health and an abstract of  
those performed by similar officers in the  
City of London. We shall return to the  
question of these duties shortly. The  
Committee further express themselves  
strongly of opinion that the selected candi-  
date should possess "a public health  
diploma in addition to this ordinary medical  
degree; that he should, in fact, be an expert  
in all matters affecting the public health."  
In Dr. WATSON'S for the sake of  
appointing whom the Government insulted  
the unofficial members and disorganized  
the Sanitary Board, an expert of this  
kind? If so, the public ought to have been  
informed of it and his qualifications been  
mentioned in the *Gazette*. The words we  
have underlined above "not necessarily as  
a subordinate officer"—are the words that  
appear to us to have been added since  
the debate in the Legislative Council (on  
18th April) and since Mr. McCORMACK  
quoted from the report now under notice.

The rest of the report is taken up  
with a consideration of private practice;  
the best means of making the civil  
hospital popular among the Chinese; the  
inspection of non-Government hospitals;  
a proposal of Dr. LOWSON to train to  
supplement or supersede the present staff  
of nursing sisters by nurses locally  
trained; the establishment of dispensaries  
and their management; and lastly, as to  
the medical arrangement that might be  
made for the removal of patients from the  
Colony in the event of the return of the  
Plague. In connection with this last  
question we desire only to point out that  
the whole of the evidence given by the  
medical witnesses, and more especially by  
Dr. ATZINSON, and the recommenda-

tions of the Committee amount to a most  
emphatic condemnation of the action of  
the Governor last year in permitting the  
removal of patients to Lai-c-i-ko and an  
equally emphatic and satisfactory justifi-  
cation of the action of the Permanent  
Committee in refusing to sanction it on any  
consideration or in any form.

There is not a syllable in the report that  
indicated the least desire on the part of  
the Committee to abolish the Sanitary  
Board or to interfere with its functions or  
constitution in any way. There was only  
one witness who spoke against it, the  
Superintendent of the Civil Hospital, who,  
not unnaturally, succeeding the Colonial  
Surgeon in his functions and duties would  
like to centre in himself all medical  
authority and all sanitary control of every  
description.

The Committee place the Health Officer  
under the Board, as an Officer of the  
Board and its principal adviser (not as a  
subordinate officer) and require him to be  
wholly independent of the medical depart-  
ment and they define his position and duties  
by reference to the practices in Bradford and  
London, where he is required to "perform  
all the duties imposed upon him" by any  
bye-laws or regulations of the Sanitary  
Authority of Bradford "to attend the office  
of the Sanitary Authority and required to  
perform all duties legally imposed on  
him by any bye-law of the Sanitary  
Authority and subject to the instructions of  
the Sanitary Authority, and in such manner  
as they may approve, to direct and superin-  
tend the work of the Sanitary Inspectors  
to be asked to perform in Hongkong. We  
shall return to this subject at an early  
date and will then probably publish some  
amusing extracts from the evidence.

THE PO LEUNG KUK AND THE  
RETRENCHMENT FIASCO.

We have been favoured with a copy  
of the Report of the Po Leung Kuk  
Society from the date of its re-organisa-  
tion to the 31st December last. There is  
nothing in it and so we refrain from  
publishing it. We note that out of a  
total expenditure for the nine months of  
\$1,352.00, \$850.51 was spent in the pay-  
ment of wages, &c., to clerks and servants  
and \$502.30 in providing for the food,  
clothing and relief generally of the persons  
for whose benefit the Institute is supposed  
to exist, less \$88 spent in advertising lists  
of the subscribers.

We have also been honoured with  
a copy of the Supplementary Report of  
the Retrenchment Committee, on the  
Public Works Department whose  
original report, undated, was laid on the  
Council table on the 17th September, 1891.  
At page VIII of that report the Com-  
mittee stated that they had examined Mr.  
TOOKER and Mr. MALCOLM, both officers of  
the Public Works Department, and that, in  
the absence of Mr. COOPER and Mr.  
CHATHAM, the heads of the Department, they  
deemed it advisable to postpone their  
inquiry into that important branch of the  
service until the return of these gentlemen  
to the colony, especially in view of the fact  
that Mr. MALCOLM and Mr. TOOKER were  
diametrically opposed to each other in  
opinion on all points. The inquiry was  
apparently resumed on the 22nd of  
November last. Mr. CHATHAM was not  
examined, and Mr. COOPER would appear  
to have given the Committee about two  
hours of his valuable time. No one else  
was called, either in the Department or  
outside of it, and the Committee report—  
*rum tunc amiti*—that they, the members  
of the Committee, are of opinion that, con-  
sidering the size of the island and the nature  
and extent of the public works carried on in  
the Colony, the staff of the department is  
far too great and expensive, but that, as  
Mr. COOPER says it is not, there is an end  
of the question, and they have no recom-  
mendations to offer.

They were appointed specially to  
inquire whether Mr. COOPER's views  
on the subject were or were not  
correct. The public, the Secretary of  
State, they themselves, were of the opinion  
that the expenditure in the Public Works  
Department was excessive. They had  
the evidence of Mr. MALCOLM that there  
was more work done in Mr.  
PARCE's time, of equally good as quality as  
the work done now and at far less expense,  
and further Mr. MALCOLM's opinion that the  
present staff was excessive. They had  
Mr. COOPER and Mr. TOOKER on the other  
side, and, instead of taking evidence to  
enable them to decide between these  
conflicting views, instead of calling Mr.  
LEUNG, Mr. DAWSON, and Mr. ORANGE, who  
had all been in this department for years  
and who knew all about it, and about the  
cost of work outside the public service as  
well as in it, they make no inquiry whatever,  
but bow down before the Director of  
Public Works and accept his opinion as  
final. "Gentlemen of the Jury, do you  
find the prisoner guilty or not guilty of  
the felony of which he stands indicted?"  
"Not guilty, my Lord. The prisoner  
says he did not do it. And in the face  
of that statement we cannot find other-  
wise, although ourselves we really  
think he is guilty!"

What is the verdict of the public on  
the Retrenchment Committee? Not  
worth its salt. What have the Com-  
mittee accomplished?—Nothing.

For Mr. CROOK has been compelled,  
under departmental pressure, to withdraw,  
or ask leave to withdraw all his state-  
ments made on his original examination,  
about Mr. CHATHAM, and his fee as  
Consulting Engineer, and also his very  
modest expression of opinion that in the  
near future there might be room to look  
forward to a reduction in expenditure.

On one point the Committee are  
unanimous and emphatic and no amount  
of evidence will convince them to the  
contrary. They consider the new system  
of drainage a complete failure. They  
find that where it is in operation the streets  
are so offensive and so productive of  
stenches as to be "a disgrace to any  
civilized city." Called on, officially, to  
state on what evidence they based their  
opinion on the point, they, one and all,  
put their fingers to their noses,—"and so  
do all of us."

## TELEGRAM.

(Special to Hongkong Telegraph.)

THE REVOLT IN  
FORMOSA.

Governor TANG ELECTED  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
FORMOSA.

THE REBELS' STANDARD  
UNFURLED.

SHANGHAI, May 25th.  
10.35 a.m.

The feeling in Formosa is becoming  
daily more hostile to the Japanese.

The people have declared Formosa an  
Independent Republic and have elected  
Acting Governor TANG (who assumed  
supreme control immediately after the  
retirement of Governor SHAO) as President.

The flag of the new Republic is a yellow  
dragon on a blue ground.

## REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

THE DEPRESSION IN GREAT BRITAIN.  
LONDON, May 25th.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt speaking at a  
banquet at the Mansion House, admitted that  
great depression, notably in agriculture, existed  
in Great Britain, but said that symptoms of  
improvement were not wanting. He stated,  
also, that the Government was firmly resolved  
to adhere unwaveringly to those monetary prin-  
ciples which had made the United Kingdom  
prosperous.

## LABOUCHERE ON DISSOLUTION.

Mr. Labouchere urges a dissolution of Parlia-  
ment, but suggests that before dissolving Sir  
William Harcourt should replace Lord Rosebery  
as Prime Minister, the present headless condi-  
tion of the Liberal party causing paralysis of  
action.

NEW JAPANESE MINISTER FOR  
PEKING.

Mr. Hayashi has been appointed Japanese  
Minister to Peking.

[T. Hayashi held office during the war as  
Vice-Minister of the Department of Foreign  
Affairs, and as such rendered important ser-  
vices to his country in conjunction with  
Vice-Minister Munster, the Minister for  
Foreign Affairs.—E. H. K.]

## ELECTION NEWS.

Mr. Lytton, the Unionist candidate has been  
elected for Warwick by a majority of 550,  
replacing ex-Speaker the Hon. A. W. Peel.

## IRELAND.

It is officially announced that General Lord  
Frederick Roberts succeed Viscount St. Germain  
Wolsey as Commander-in-Chief of the forces  
in Ireland.

## THE OPUM REVENUE.

Mr. Joseph Pender, Member for Tyneside, has  
moved a resolution in the House of Commons,  
that the revenue derived from Opium is morally  
indefensible and urges the suppression of its  
cultivation and sale except for medical purposes.

## INDIA.

The Times strongly censures the Unionist  
Members to attend the "house in full force to  
defeat the attempt to derange the finances of  
India and to meddle with the domestic habits  
of millions of people."

(Special to North China Daily News.)  
PUNISHMENT FOR COWARDS.

PEKING, May 18th.

The Emperor has given his approbation to  
the recommendation of the Acting Viceroy of  
China, Wang Wei-shao, for the summary  
decapitation whenever caught, of all the officers  
who had charge of the torpedo boats of the  
Yangtze fleet at Wei-hai-wei and who managed to  
escape from that port on evidence of attacking  
the Japanese fleet outside, but took to flight  
immediately upon getting beyond the forts and  
harbour with the result that the whole  
twelve boats were captured or sunk by the  
Japanese, or destroyed and abandoned by  
the officers and crews during such flight.

## THE FORMOSA COMMISSIONER.

THE Viceroy Li Hung-chang's son, Li Chiao-  
fang, has been appointed Commissioner to  
undertake the odious duty of handing over  
Formosa to the Japanese.

## THE FORMOSA COMMISSIONER.

PEKING, May 19th.

The appointment of Li Chiao-fang as Com-  
missioner to deliver over Formosa to Japan was  
the result of the hostile combination against  
Li Hung-chang's "Treaty of Peking." The  
argument used was that as Li Chiao-fang had  
willingly consented to Japan's demands for  
the cession of the island, it should be his duty  
to bring the matter to a conclusion by handing over  
the island of Formosa personally to the Japanese  
Commissioners. No excuses for failure will be  
accepted by the Emperor.

(From La Presse de Saigon.)  
THE GERMAN NAVY.

PARIS, May 15th.

Admiral KROU has been appointed Com-  
mander-in-Chief of the German Navy.

## COUNT KALNOKY.

The Emperor has accepted Count Kalno-  
ky's resignation. M. Gobiuschewski is to be his  
successor.

## TYPHOON WARNING.

Sefior José de Navarro, Spanish Consul at  
this port, has courteously favoured us with the  
following telegram:—"BOLINAS, May 23rd,  
8.05 p.m.

"A depression exists to the east of the North  
Luzon, which appears to be moving in an E.N.E.  
direction."

"At 4 p.m. yesterday the barometer at the  
Observatory read 29.80."

"The Observatory official report to-day:—At  
11.15 a.m. the barometer was steady. At 4 p.m.  
the barometer was 29.75, falling."

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

GUNNER Jones, of the Royal Artillery, who has  
been ill for some weeks, died of remittent  
fever at the Military Hospital yesterday afternoon.  
The funeral will take place this afternoon at 4  
o'clock.

It is reported in pretty well informed native  
circles that a rebellion, which may assume  
alarming dimensions, has broken out near  
Swatow and that the rebels, who are well armed,  
are carrying all before them.

Owing to extreme pressure on our space we are  
compelled to hold over a mass of interesting  
matter, including the full text of the judgment  
in the Manuk v. Shewan case; several interesting  
articles and a lot of other interesting matter.

A Chinese contractor, of Gough Street, was  
fined \$35 at the Magistracy this morning for not  
keeping his latrine in a sanitary condition.

This gentleman's *foh*, who was called in as a  
witness, was fined \$5 for telling deliberate lies  
in Court. Inspector Reddie, of the Sanitary  
Board, conducted the prosecution.

The Acting Manager-in-Chief of the Joint  
Telegraph Companies courteously informs us  
that "in respect to paragraph 4 of the *Press*  
*Regulations* the Companies will now accept  
groups of figures in press messages, when used  
in their natural sense."

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The billiard handicap for a handsome silver cup  
among members of the Royal Artillery mess,  
North Barracks, was won by Sergt. Belcher  
(handicap allowance 25 pints) who beat  
C. Q. M. S. McKee (scratch) by 34 points in  
a game of 300 up.

REAR-ADMIRAL HOFFMANN, Commander-in-Chief  
of the German naval forces in these waters, was  
a patient in the General Hospital, Shanghai, on  
the 21st instant, having been brought up to  
the Model Settlement from Woosung in a tug-  
boat on the 18th (Saturday).

We received this afternoon from the Hon.  
Secretary of the Legation of the Plague  
Recognition Fund, which have been audited  
by Mr. Pollerton Henderson. They show gross  
receipts (including \$97.83 from Mr. W. Blayney  
as proceeds of the Black Plague Concerts)  
\$8,054.00; disbursements \$5,515.10 and a balance  
at credit in the Chartered Bank—\$2,538.90.

The master of the steam-launch *Whiggle* was  
charged at the Police Court to-day, at the  
instance of Constable Campbell, for carry-  
ing ten passengers in excess of the number  
for which he held a license. He pleaded matter  
by handing \$100 over to the *dist*







The following correspondence was attached to the Report:

**PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE.**  
HONGKONG, March 12th, 1895.  
SIR,—In my examination before the Retrenchment Committee I was asked questions on several subjects not bearing on that particular branch of the Public Works Department with which, owing to my special duties, I am most intimately acquainted. I answered these questions to the best of my knowledge at the time, but I regret to state that on further enquiry I find my answers to be misleading and in some respect incomplete. I have therefore the honour to request to be allowed to withdraw such part as is mentioned below.

I make this request recognising the importance of correct evidence only being taken into consideration in arriving at a decision in respect of the expenditure of the Department.

The evidence I wish withdrawn is from p. 159. "Q.—See in the Estimates that there is some £300 allowed to Mr. Chadwick as Consulting Engineer. What is that for? When do you consult him? Have you consulted him this year?"

To p. 161.  
"A.—I should say that the tendency is to diminish."

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
J. ROWLAND CROOK,  
Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Acting Colonial Secretary.

**COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.**  
HONGKONG, 15th March, 1895.  
SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant transmitting a supplementary report of the Retrenchment Committee upon the staff of the Public Works Department and a copy of the evidence given by Mr. Cooper in connection therewith, and with reference to the letter I am to enquire whether the Committee have any remarks to offer as to the reduction of the salary of the Chinese draftsman, when opportunity offers, as suggested by the Director of Public Works?

I am further to request that a copy of the evidence, upon which the concluding paragraph of the report under acknowledgment is based, may be furnished for His Excellency's information.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,  
Colonial Secretary.  
The Secretary, Retrenchment Committee.

**SUPREME COURT HOUSE.**  
HONGKONG, 27th April, 1895.  
SIR,—In reply to your letter No. 517 of the 18th March, I have the honour to inform you that the Retrenchment Committee agrees with Mr. Cooper's views concerning the reduction of the salary of the Chinese draftsman when opportunity offers.

2. As regards the evidence upon which the concluding paragraph of the supplementary report on Public Works Department was based, I have to report that no written evidence was recorded, and that the oral evidence of Mr. Ackroyd and Mr. Jackson was that upon which the Committee founded its remarks.

3. Mr. Ackroyd made special reference to smells by Seymour Terrace and on the level of that block, whilst Mr. Jackson drew attention to the odours arising from spots close to his residence, and has since the last meeting favoured me with a note which contained the following:—  
"As to smelling evidence for the concluding portion of the report, let anyone wishing to satisfy himself upon the point take a walk along Bonham Strand. If he is not satisfied with the quality and quantity of the smells he will get, he will be very hard to convince. I have recently taken several walks through the town, east and west, and am sorry to say that in all my time here I have never experienced such stenches."

4. Mr. Jackson has authorised the insertion in this letter of the above extract.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
T. S. COOPER SMITH,  
Secretary, Retrenchment Committee.  
The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, &c., &c., &c.

**HONGKONG MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.**  
The following is the report of the Medical Committee laid on the table of the Legislative Council on Thursday.

We, the undersigned, were appointed by His Excellency the Governor to be Members of a Committee of Inquiry into the Medical Department of the Colony and other relative matters embodied in a list of subjects which accompanied our letters of appointment.

2. We have accordingly proceeded on the lines laid down by the Government and have conducted our inquiry with special reference to the subjects upon which we were asked to report. In the course of this inquiry, with a view to making ourselves thoroughly acquainted with the working of the Medical Department generally, we have had occasion to pay a personal visit of inspection to the Government Civil Hospital, and have examined servants of the Government, to whom we are indebted for much valuable information and many useful suggestions, which we have adopted and embodied in our recommendations.

The following is a list of the Officers who have appeared before us in the course of our enquiry:

The Colonial Surgeon.  
The Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital.  
The Assistant Surgeon, President of the Government Civil Hospital.  
The Secretary of the Sanitary Board.  
The Health Officer.  
The Medical Officer of the Gaol.  
The Government Analyst.  
The Chief of the Alice Memorial Hospital.  
Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, and the Matron of the Government Civil Hospital.

A copy of the evidence given by them forms an appendix to the report which we beg to submit below for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor.

For facility of reference we have drawn up our report in the form of answers to the various questions submitted to us, and corresponding numerically thereto.

**REPORT.**  
**Question 1.**—The present distribution of work and the hours of duty of each member of the medical staff. What re-arrangement of duties, if any, is desirable with a view to securing the more efficient working of the Department?

**Answer.**—We are of opinion—  
(a) That the work required of the medical staff—as at present distributed—falls to a certain extent on the Colonial Surgeon, and chiefly on the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of the Civil Hospital, and that the time of those Officers of the Government is sufficiently occupied, more especially since the additional duty of daily inspecting the Tung Wa Hospital has been imposed on them.

(b) That the Medical Officer of the Gaol is not sufficient work, but that the present occupant of the post is not competent to assist at the Government Civil Hospital.

(c) That the duties of Health Officer of the Port fully occupy the time of one Officer.

In view of the above it appears to us that some re-arrangement of duties is desirable with a view to distributing the work more equally among the Officers of the Department. At present, chiefly owing to the reason given in (b) above and to the fact that the services of the Health Officer of the Port, owing to his being allowed private practice, are not available for the general work of the Department in time of great pressure or emergency, serious inconvenience is likely to arise should the Colonial Surgeon or the Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital or the Assistant Superintendent be incapacitated for duty by sickness. Further, under the existing arrangements it is difficult to provide for leave due to Officers of the medical staff without outside assistance and this, we understand, is not readily available owing to the lapsing of the absent officer or officers being insufficient to induce doctors from ships, for instance, to place their services at the disposal of the Government. The result is that when either the Colonial Surgeon, the Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital or the Assistant Superintendent takes leave, his share of the work must necessarily fall on the other two officers, the Health Officer of the Port and the Medical Officer of the Gaol, for the reasons stated above, not being available.

Being satisfied from the evidence before us that the present numerical strength of the medical staff, although not too large, is quite sufficient for the ordinary requirements of the Colony, it remains to us to suggest such re-arrangement of the duties as may, if not effectually overcome, at least considerably minimise the disadvantages of the present system of administration in the department. In considering what re-arrangement is necessary for this purpose we have been guided by the following facts which have been brought to our notice:

(1) That much of the Colonial Surgeon's time is occupied at present in attending subordinate officers of the Government and Police Officers and their families. Also that he is charged with the duty of inspecting the Tung Wa Hospital. This work we consider should not be ordinarily performed by the Principal Medical Officer of the Government, and we shall accordingly recommend the performance of these duties by a junior officer.

(2) That the Health Officer, although nominally under the control of the Colonial Surgeon, is not absolutely at his disposal in an emergency, owing to his being allowed private practice.

(3) That the services of the Medical Officer of the Gaol are not at present availed of when assistance is required in the Government Civil Hospital.

In view of the above facts, we beg to make the following recommendations for the re-constitution of the medical staff and a general re-distribution of the duties pertaining to them.

We consider that the title of Colonial Surgeon is a misnomer and should be abolished, and that in his place a Principal Medical Officer of the Government, whose duties should be both executive and administrative, should be appointed. Such officer should be the recognised head of the medical staff proper, but should, in no way interfere with the performance of the duties of the Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital in so far as that he should superintend and be responsible for the satisfactory management of that institution.

The Principal Medical Officer should have under his control and at his disposal the following staff:

(a) Two Medical Officers who should ordinarily perform the duties of Assistants at the Government Civil Hospital. One of these officers to be available for attending the subordinate officers of the Government and the Police.

(b) Health Officer of the Port. This officer should not be available for other duties but in times of emergency should be at the entire disposal of the Principal Medical Officer and at all times under his orders.

(c) Medical Officer in Charge of the Gaol, whose duties should also include a daily inspection of the Tung Wa Hospital. This Officer should likewise be at all times under the orders of the Principal Medical Officer, and liable, when called upon, to assist at the Government Civil Hospital or available for any service at the discretion of the Principal Medical Officer.

Under the above arrangement we consider that many of the disadvantages of the present system would disappear. The Principal Medical Officer would have under his control a sufficient staff for the ordinary requirements of the Colony, and in the event of an officer falling sick or taking leave it would be open to him to distribute the duties of such officer amongst the remainder of the staff (taking his own share) without undue strain on any individual officer.

In addition to and independently of the above proposed medical staff proper, we recommend strongly the appointment of a Medical Officer of Health for the Colony, who should be the Principal Medical Officer of the Port, but, unlike the latter, entirely independent of the control of the Principal Medical Officer. The Health Officer for the Colony should, in our opinion, have no connection whatever with the medical staff proper. His position should be quite distinct. He should be the medical adviser of the Government on all sanitary matters through the Sanitary Board, to which he should be attached (not necessarily as a subordinate of the Board) and on which he should occupy a seat. He should be a member of the Sanitary Board, and his duties on the Board being purely of an advisory nature, and it being obviously undesirable that he should enter into any discussion upon points on which he is called upon to advise.

We are not prepared to lay down definitely the specific duties that should be assigned to the proposed new officer; they must necessarily depend to a great extent on local conditions and circumstances, which are perhaps better known to the Government than to ourselves. But we consider that the duties performed by similar officers in some of our large towns at home should, *mutatis mutandis*, be assigned to the Health Officer for the Colony, and we append for the information of the Government a copy of the duties laid down by the Bradford Corporation for their Medical Officer of Health, and an abstract of those performed by similar officers in the City of London, which it may be found desirable to adapt to local requirements.

With regard to the qualifications requisite for the proposed officer, we are strongly of opinion that the selected candidate should possess a public health diploma in addition to his ordinary medical degree. He should, in short, be an expert in all matters affecting the public health.

**Question 2.**—Whether the existing staff is sufficient to meet the ordinary requirements of the Colony, and what special arrangements, if any, should be made in case of emergency?

**Answer.**—We have already dealt with the first part of this question, and expressed our opinion that, under the re-arrangement proposed above, the numerical strength of the staff is sufficient for the ordinary requirements of the Colony.

With regard to the latter half of the question, we have already provided above for cases of moderate emergency in recommending that the services of all members of the medical staff proper should be available for any such cases.

ordinary duties, when necessary, and that the Principal Medical Officer shall have the power of appointing and allotting such special duties. In cases of great emergency we are unable to recommend any definite course of action, seeing that the proper steps to be taken on such occasions must necessarily depend on the circumstances and conditions, and must be decided accordingly. We, however, venture to suggest that in the event of any grave emergency arising, liberal inducements be offered to certain medical practitioners (local or otherwise) to place their services at the disposal of the Government, and that such temporary officers should be under the orders of the Principal Medical Officer in the same way as members of the permanent staff.

**Question 3.**—Whether it is desirable that any member of the staff should be allowed private practice?

**Answer.**—We consider that in no case should private practice be allowed to officers of the medical staff of the Government, and have our proposals for the re-constitution of the staff on the understanding that this privilege, where it now exists, will be withdrawn, and that the services of the whole staff will be entirely at the disposal of the Government. We, however, make the above recommendation conditionally upon medical officers of the Government being allowed, as hitherto, to be called in by private practitioners for the purpose of holding consultations, to which we see no objection whatever.

In connection with the question of private practice, it has been brought to our notice that patients of the Government Civil Hospital often visit Hongkong from the Coast ports for the purpose of consulting the medical officers at the Hospital who are well acquainted with their cases, having treated them during their periods of sickness. In such cases we are given to understand that unless these ex-patients re-enter the Hospital, the doctors are not allowed to tender advice or opinions, and it has been suggested that to this extent and strictly within these limits private practice should be allowed and the doctors authorised to see such patients and charge a fee therefor. We are not, however, prepared to endorse this latter suggestion; it appears to us that there is no objection to these ex-patients consulting, if they so desire, the medical officers of the Hospital service, in these cases, but seeing that the medical service is provided by the Government, and that the doctors are constituted in such cases *quid* officers of the Government Civil Hospital and not *qua* private practitioners, we think that all fees so chargeable should be credited to the Government and not to its individual officers.

**Question 4.**—To what extent the Chinese community avails themselves of the Hospital, and what steps, if any, can be taken to make it more popular with the Chinese?

**Answer.**—From the evidence taken on this subject we are of opinion that, having regard to the accommodation provided, the strength of the medical and nursing staff, &c., the advantages of the Hospital are fully availed of by the Chinese, and that the number of beds is at times hardly equal to the number of patients applying to be admitted. As regards the out-patients we learn that there are more applicants than, under the existing arrangements, can possibly be attended to, and that they are constantly sent away in consequence. It is anticipated that if the re-arrangement of the staff, which we have proposed above, is approved, the work of this branch of the Hospital will be more efficiently performed than at present, and will increase accordingly.

**Question 5.**—To what extent non-Government Hospitals have been visited and inspected in the past, and what improved arrangements, if any, should be made for the frequent and regular inspection of such institutions in the future?

**Answer.**—We find that the only non-Government Hospital hitherto regularly inspected in the past was the Tung Wa Hospital. We are of opinion that that institution should in future be visited at least once daily, and have already provided for the performance of this duty by a member of the medical staff. As regards other non-Government Hospitals we consider that power should be taken (by law if necessary) providing for the periodical inspection by an officer of the Government of all hospitals in the Colony, public and private.

**Question 6.**—Whether the scheme suggested in the enclosed letter from the Acting Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital for the training of nurses locally is practicable, and if so, whether it is desirable in the interests of economy and efficiency?

**Answer.**—We consider that the scheme referred to is practicable to this extent, viz., that the young women, whom it is proposed to train, should be trained on the understanding that they can, as nurses, only and can never attain to the rank of "Sisters" to whom they will and must always remain subordinate. We are of opinion that they cannot be trained with a view to ultimately taking the place of the European Sisters, and that, even if they could be, it would be obviously undesirable on the grounds of their nationality and origin to accord them, such equality. Subject to the above limitations, we are prepared to recommend the scheme as a tentative measure and on the grounds of economy. We understand that in the future two of the sisters will be away on leave at the same time, and it is anticipated that with the assistance of the young women whom it is proposed to train, the remainder of the nursing staff will be able to carry on the work satisfactorily, and that the necessity of obtaining an extra Sister from home to enable members of the nursing staff to take leave when it falls due, will thus be obviated. We are also prepared to recommend the scheme on independent grounds in the hope that, if it succeeds, the want of an outside nursing staff, which would be available for private cases, would be gradually supplied. While, as we are not qualified to give any opinion upon the merits or demerits of the scheme, we are unable at present to say, it is possible, however, that if they prove to be capable nurses, the duties of the sisters may gradually become of a lighter and more supervisory nature, and in that event their number might eventually be reduced to what is necessary for the purpose of supervision, the "nurses" so-called doing most of the work at present performed by the sisters. We are not, however, in a position to forward any recommendation for the reduction of the European nursing staff unless circumstances justify such reduction.

We think that the Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital should report upon the success (or otherwise) of the scheme herein referred to after twelve months, and that its continuance should depend upon the nature of that report.

**Question 7 (a).**—How far the establishment of dispensaries for the sale of European drugs at nominal prices to Chinese is practicable? Whether such establishments could be made self-supporting without sacrificing the object in view, and if not, what extra cost would be involved thereby? Further, whether such institutions should be placed under Government control, or whether satisfactory arrangements could be made with the Chinese College of Medicine for the efficient working and management?

**Answer.**—We approve of the above scheme for the establishment of such dispensaries, but hesitate to suggest for general adoption, not being in a position to form an accurate estimate of the expenditure that would be involved thereby and of its relative utility. In view, however, of the fact that British Kowloon is without either a qualified private medical practitioner, or a dispensary for the sale of European drugs, we consider it highly desirable that the latter at least should be provided without delay, and beg to recommend accordingly the establishment of a dispensary in that locality with a Chinese practitioner qualified in Western medicine in charge but under the direct control and supervision of the Government.

We consider that a small charge should be made for drugs supplied to Chinese, this being the practice of the Medical Missions in China, and from the results shown by those societies we have every reason to anticipate that the dispensary would prove a financial success. The necessary charge, in view of the nature character, should of course be exercised over the Chinese practitioner in charge, who should in our opinion be secured for a certain amount.

As regards the cost of the proposed dispensary, we understand that a sum of \$1,500 a year would be sufficient to cover the expenditure for rent, drugs, and salary of the officer in charge, the latter to be fixed at \$60 a month without private practice.

In addition to his duties in the dispensary we consider that the Chinese dispenser should be required to make himself acquainted with and give some information of the existence of any epidemic disease to enquire into the causes of suspicious deaths for the information of the Registrar General, and to act as public vaccinator for the district of Kowloon.

If the experiment proves successful in Kowloon, we recommend the general extension of the scheme to other parts of the Colony, but would point out that the Alice Memorial and Netherpole Hospitals would appear to meet the requirements of the native population in the districts in which they are located.

**Question 7 (b).**—In the event of a recurrence of plague, what medical arrangements should be made for the removal of patients from the Colony?

**Answer.**—We are of opinion that all persons, wishing to do so, should be allowed to leave the Colony subject to the following arrangements for conditions of removal:—

(1) Patients to be removed at least 20 miles (as the crow flies) from the Colony.

(2) Special junks, fitted up to the satisfaction of the medical authorities, to start at stated times from certain wharves, provided for the purpose in the Eastern and Western Districts.

(3) Such junks to proceed to a place more than 20 miles (as the crow flies) from the Colony under the escort of at least one European doctor discharging patients.

(4) Matsadoes to be erected adjoining the wharves, for the temporary accommodation of the sick prior to their removal.

(5) One European Police officer and one medical officer, if possible, to be on duty at each of the matsadoes.

(6) Patients, wishing to be removed from the Colony, to report to the officer on duty at the matsadoe, who should arrange for their temporary accommodation and early removal in the manner prescribed above.

In this connection we would further suggest that dead bodies might also with advantage be removed from the Colony, provided that such removal is carried out speedily, and the limit of distance from the Colony is strictly adhered to.

Having now dealt with all the questions submitted to us for enquiry, we beg leave to add one or two suggestions which have occurred to us in connection with the subject under review. It has come under our notice in the course of our enquiry that the present observation ward at the Government Civil Hospital is wholly unsuitable for the purpose for which it is intended. Being a wooden structure, it is necessarily very inflammable in the dry season, and we learn that it has been more than once partially destroyed by fire. We would therefore respectfully submit the great danger to which patients are exposed by being housed in a wooden building, and urge the early erection of a permanent brick or stone structure, for which we are informed plans have already been prepared.

We would further beg to suggest that the Kennedy Town Police Station be permanently reserved as a Hospital for the reception of infectious or contagious diseases, when the *Pyrexia* is full or when it is undesirable to remove patients across the water. With these additional suggestions, which we trust will receive the favourable consideration of the Governor, we beg to conclude our report.

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We consider that a small charge should be made for drugs supplied to Chinese, this being the practice of the Medical Missions in China, and from the results shown by those societies we have every reason to anticipate that the dispensary would prove a financial success. The necessary charge, in view of the nature character, should of course be exercised over the Chinese practitioner in charge, who should in our opinion be secured for a certain amount.

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In this connection we would further suggest that dead bodies might also with advantage be removed from the Colony, provided that such removal is carried out speedily, and the limit of distance from the Colony is strictly adhered to.

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We consider that a small charge should be made for drugs supplied to Chinese, this being the practice of the Medical Missions in China, and from the results shown by those societies we have every reason to anticipate that the dispensary would prove a financial success. The necessary charge, in view of the nature character, should of course be exercised over the Chinese practitioner in charge, who should in our opinion be secured for a certain amount.

As regards the cost of the proposed dispensary, we understand that a sum of \$1,500 a year would be sufficient to cover the expenditure for rent, drugs, and salary of the officer in charge, the latter to be fixed at \$60 a month without private practice.

In addition to his duties in the dispensary we consider that the Chinese dispenser should be required to make himself acquainted with and give some information of the existence of any epidemic disease to enquire into the causes of suspicious deaths for the information of the Registrar General, and to act as public vaccinator for the district of Kowloon.

If the experiment proves successful in Kowloon, we recommend the general extension of the scheme to other parts of the Colony, but would point out that the Alice Memorial and Netherpole Hospitals would appear to meet the requirements of the native population in the districts in which they are located.

**Question 7 (b).**—In the event of a recurrence of plague, what medical arrangements should be made for the removal of patients from the Colony?

**Answer.**—We are of opinion that all persons, wishing to do so, should be allowed to leave the Colony subject to the following arrangements for conditions of removal:—

preference that would be involved thereby and of its relative utility. In view, however, of the fact that British Kowloon is without either a qualified private medical practitioner, or a dispensary for the sale of European drugs, we consider it highly desirable that the latter at least should be provided without delay, and beg to recommend accordingly the establishment of a dispensary in that locality with a Chinese practitioner qualified in Western medicine in charge but under the direct control and supervision of the Government.

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